

# Maine STD Incidence, January 1 to September 30, 2006

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During the first nine months of 2006, Maine CDC received reports of 1,675 chlamydia diagnoses, 97 gonorrhea diagnoses and 13 cases of "early" (primary, secondary and early latent) syphilis. The number of chlamydia cases diagnosed so far this year represents a 2% increase over the 2005 year-to-date total. Fewer gonorrhea diagnoses were reported in the first half of 2006 than were seen at this time last year, with an 6% decrease noted. Thirteen syphilis cases have been diagnosed this year, an increase of 11 cases over the 2005 year-to-date total.

Gonorrhea was diagnosed most frequently among residents of central and southern Maine, while chlamydia diagnoses were evenly distributed throughout the state. Men who have sex with men (MSM) are disproportionately affected by gonorrhea, accounting for roughly one-third of diagnoses. Chlamydia infections were most often diagnosed in young people between the ages of 15 and 24, with this age group accounting for 77% of diagnoses. The increase in syphilis diagnoses likely reflects a national upswing in cases, with Maine cases occurring among both MSM and heterosexual populations.

The table below shows specific information about year-to-date chlamydia and gonorrhea diagnoses.

(rounded percents are listed in parentheses)

Sex	Chlamydia cases, 1/1/06 through 9/30/06	Gonorrhea cases, 1/1/06 through 9/30/06
Male	458 (27)	52 (54)
Female	1217 (73)	45 (46)
Total	1675 (100)	97 (100)
Race		
White	1268 (76)	77 (81)
Black or African American	41 (2)	7 (7)
Asian	10 (1)	1 (1)
American Indian/Alaska Native	14 (1)	1 (1)
Native Hawaiian/other Pacific Islander	0	0
More than one Race	2 (0)	0
Some Other Race	7 (0)	1 (1)
Unknown	333 (20)	8 (8)
Total	1675 (100)	95 (100)
Ethnicity		
Hispanic	7 (<1)	0
Not Hispanic	1333 (80)	90 (93)
Unknown	335 (20)	7 (7)
Total	1675 (100)	97 (100)
Age		
Less than 15	9 (1)	1 (1)
15-19	565 (34)	15 (15)
20-24	722 (43)	33 (34)
25-29	231 (14)	15 (15)
30-39	108 (6)	19 (20)
40-54	31 (2)	10 (10)
55+	9 (1)	4 (4)
Age Unknown	0	0
Total	1675 (100)	97 (100)
Region of Residence		
Northern <sup>1</sup>	342 (20)	15 (15)
Central <sup>2</sup>	662 (40)	35 (36)
Southern <sup>3</sup>	669 (40)	46 (47)
Unknown	2 (<1)	1 (1)
Total	1675 (100)	97 (100)

<sup>1</sup>Northern Maine: Aroostook, Hancock, Penobscot, Piscataquis and Washington Counties.

<sup>2</sup>Central Maine: Androscoggin, Franklin, Kennebec, Knox, Lincoln, Oxford, Sagadahoc, Somerset, Waldo Counties.

<sup>3</sup>Southern Maine: Cumberland and York Counties.